



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

CEMP-EC

6 August 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMANDS

SUBJECT: Integrated Plans for Fielding DOD's Standard Procurement System (SPS) and Resident Management System (RMS) in USACE

1. References:

- a. Memorandum, CEMP-EC, 22 April 1999, subject: RMS Deployment Plan.
- b. Memorandum, CEPR-P, 21 April 1999, subject: USACE Standard Procurement System (SPS) Draft Training Plan.

2. Purpose of this memorandum is to clarify USACE plans for fielding SPS and RMS.

3. The RMS was developed to support the construction phase of the project management business process (PMBP) in USACE. Later this year, SPS is scheduled to replace the Standard Army Acquisition Contracting System (SAACONS) which is the current Army-wide contracting automated information system. During the week of 21 June 1999, an operational test of the system began at Vicksburg District. The USACE-wide deployment will commence in early October 1999, and when fielded, SPS will support the contracting phase of the project management business process.

4. The RMS has an interface with CEFMS for downloading project finances and uploading progress payment requests. An SPS-CEFMS interface developed to support contracting and financial management functions was accepted in early June. We are preparing to solicit a proposal from American Management Systems, the SPS developer, to develop the functional description for an interface between SPS and RMS to share information on construction modifications. Most construction contract modifications are developed at the field office level and signed at the field office level by the Administrative Contracting Officer (ACO) or for those exceeding the ACO's authority, signed at the district headquarters level by the Procuring Contracting Officer (PCO). An RMS interface is needed to minimize duplicate data entry, provide appropriate levels of management support both to the contracting and construction management phases of the PMBP, and to minimize initial and long-term information system costs which are ultimately borne by our customers. When fielded, the interface will help ensure integrity of the contracting data in the SPS database, as well as financial data in the CEFMS database.

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5. Development and fielding schedules for SPS and RMS preclude having the SPS-RMS interface available for the first SPS deployment site, Vicksburg District. Because of SPS system design, we can not continue with the current process of an after-the-fact entry of the modification data into the contract system, after ACOs prepare and execute contract modifications in the field. Although paper copies of contracts and contract modifications, jointly signed by the government and contractor, are required until electronic signature is implemented in DoD, SPS is the official electronic record for contract actions within DoD. To ensure integrity of the contracting database, an interim workaround was developed for the operational test in Vicksburg. The ACOs are using the SPS for inputting construction contract modifications only until the RMS-SPS interface is operational.

6. Fielding plans for SPS do not include fielding SPS at construction area, resident, or project offices for the full deployment, steady state condition. Civil Works *operations* field offices that perform contract acquisition functions and are currently using SAACONS should plan to replace their SAACONS operations with the SPS.

7. Our objective is to have the required RMS-SPS interface available as soon as possible to support the full SPS deployment that begins in October 1999. If the RMS-SPS interface is not available during deployment of RMS at a particular district, the interim workaround of using SPS at the field office will be used until the interface is available. Implementing this interim solution will not require the ACOs to attend SPS training sessions although ACOs may choose to take the one-day *Management Overview* class. This should suffice until both systems and the interface are completely operational at all sites. At that point, the temporary deployment of SPS to construction field offices will be switched off and the RMS-SPS interface used for uploading construction contract modification information to SPS will be operational.

8. The HQ staff is working as a team to ensure integrated planning and guidance for fielding of SPS and RMS. The two systems, like CEFMS and SPS, are complementary, not competing or in conflict. We will inform you as schedules are updated and additional procedural guidance is developed. Points of contact are Ms. Kathy Love, CEPR-P, 202-761-5452 for SPS and Mr. Jim Lovo, CEMP-EC, 202-761-4804 for RMS.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

  
RUSSELL L. FUHRMAN  
Major General, USA  
Deputy Commander